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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 116953

43
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 IGA-02 /096 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ INS: JHHAWES: HME
EXT. 22351 6/14/73
APPROVED BY EB: WCARMSTRONG
EB/ IFD/ ODF: REBENEDICK(DRAFT)
NEA/ INS: LBLAINGEN
NEA/ INS: PLANDE(DRAFT)
---------- 101965
R 151828 Z JUN 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EFIN, IN, US
SUBJECT: KAUL CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG

1. INDIAN APPOINTED AMBASSADOR T. N. KAUL IN INITIAL COURTESY CALL JUNE 13 ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG DISCUSSED RANGE OF ECONOMIC TOPICS. KAUL ASSERTED ECONOMICS WOULD BE HIS FIRST PRIORITY. ARMSTRONG NOTED US ATTACHED SIMILAR IMPORTANCE TO ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE, AND SUGGESTED THAT FULL DISCUSSIONS OF OUTSTANDING BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES MIGHT BE USEFUL AT SOME FUTURE DATE. KAUL READILY CONCURRED. SPECIFIC POINTS COVERED IN CONVERSATION FOLLOW.

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PAGE 02 STATE 116953

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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2. ARMSTRONG REVIEWED US THINKING ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PROPOSALS ON FOREIGN AID, AND STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS IN C-20 ON INTERNATIONAL MONETARY ISSUES. KAUL SAID INDIA WAS DISAPPOINTED AT WHAT HE CALLED LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH TEN ADDED MEMBERS OF C-20, NOTING PARTICULARLY INDIAN POSITION ON SDR- AID LINK AND LDC PROBLEMS WITH FLOATING EXCHANGE RATES. ARMSTRONG EXPLAINED US POSITION ON THESE QUESTIONS, AND SAID HE HOPED C-20 DEPUTIES MEETING IN JULY COULD MAKE PROGRESS IN ANTICI-PATION OF NAIROBI MEETING IN SEPTEMBER.

3. KAUL INQUIRED ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR US TRADE BILL, AND NOTED IN PARTICULAR INDIAN INTEREST IN US TEXTILE MARKET AND METHOD OF IMPLEMENTATION OF GSP. ARMSTRONG EXPLAINED THAT TEXTILES WERE OUTSIDE THE PURVIEW OF THE TRADE BILL AND WERE BEING DEALT WITH IN CURRENT MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA FOR A LONG- TERM MULTIFIBER TEXTILE TRADE AGREEMENT, WHICH, HE NOTED, WOULD PROVIDE FOR A FAIR AMOUNT OF GROWTH FOR FOREIGN SUPPLIERS TO THE US MARKET. REGARDING THE TRADE BILL, ARMSTRONG SAID THE PROSPECTS APPEARED FAIRLY GOOD THAT A BILL WOULD PASS THE HOUSE THIS SUMMER AND THAT IT COULD BE PASSED BY THE SENATE BY DECEMBER. AS FOR PROPOSED LIMITS ON GSP -- I. E. DOLS 25 MILLION CEILING ON IMPORTS OF ANY ITEM FROM ONE COUNTRY UNDER GSP AND LIMIT OF 50 PERCENT OF TOTAL US IMPORTS OF THAT ITEM FROM ONE COUNTRY -- ARMSTRONG EXPLAINED THAT THESE HAD BEEN SUGGESTED IN PART TO AVOID MORE STRINGENT PROVISIONS BEING ADDED TO THE BILL. KAUL SAID INDIA WOULD LIKE TO SEE CEILING SET AT DOLS 50 MILLION FROM ANY ONE COUNTRY. DISCUSSION ENDED WITH KAUL ASKING THAT INDIAN VIEWS BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPMENT US TRADE POLICY. ARMSTRONG AGREED WE WOULD LISTEN TO INDIA, AS WE DID TO MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, AND PROPOSED THAT MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF CURRENT ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL ISSUES MIGHT BE USEFUL. KAUL AGREED. PORTER

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Subject: KAUL CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT
TAGS: EFIN, ETRD, PFOR, IN, US
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CALCUTTA
MADRAS
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